

Remarks

The Applicants note with appreciation the acknowledgment of the Applicants' claim of priority.

The Applicants have amended the Specification in accordance with the Examiner's helpful suggestion to add a "Related Application" section to update the status of the parent application. The Title has also been changed in accordance with the Examiner's helpful suggestion. Finally, the Applicants have amended the Abstract to remove the "legal" language and to shorten the Abstract and place it into conformance with the new Title. The Applicants respectfully submit that the Specification is now in proper form.

The Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claim 21 and the indication that Claims 18, 20 and 25 would be allowed if rewritten into independent form. Claim 17 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claim 18, thereby placing Claim 17 into proper form for allowance. Claim 18 has now been cancelled as being redundant. In view of the amendments to Claim 17, the Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 19, 23 and 24 are also in condition for allowance.

Claims 20 and 25 have been amended into independent form and the Applicants respectfully submit that they, too, are now in condition for allowance.

The Applicants have added new Claims 34 – 36. Those claims depend from Claims 17, 20 and 25, respectively, and recite that at least one component of the conjugate fibers is polytrimethylene terephthalate. Support may be found in the Specification at page 11, lines 3 – 4, for example. Entry into the Official File is respectfully requested. The Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 34 – 36 are in condition for allowance in view of the allowability of Claims 17, 20 and 25, from which they depend.

Claim 22 has been amended to recite that at least one component of the conjugate fibers is polytrimethylene terephthalate. Support may be found throughout the Specification, such as at page 11, lines 3 – 4. The Applicants respectfully submit that the presence of polytrimethylene terephthalate in Claim 22 distinguishes it from the prior art of record and, particularly, Campbell or JP '617. Neither of those disclosures, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest a process of making conjugate fibers comprising two types of polyester where at least one component of the conjugate fibers is polytrimethylene terephthalate. Withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102, based on Campbell or JP '617, is accordingly respectfully requested.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection based on JP '419 is now moot in view of the amendment to Claim 17 and that the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection based on the hypothetical combination of JP '329 with JP '419 is also moot in view of the amendment to Claim 17. Withdrawal of those rejections is respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that the entire Application is now in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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